

EFFICIENT GAUSSIAN PROCESS MODELING USING EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN-BASED SUBAGGING

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Abstract: We address two important issues in Gaussian process (GP) modeling. One is how to reduce the computational complexity in GP modeling and the other is how to simultaneously perform variable selection and estimation for the mean function of GP models. Estimation is computationally intensive for GP models because it heavily involves manipulations of an n -by- n correlation matrix, where n is the sample size. Conventional penalized likelihood approaches are widely used for variable selection. However the computational cost of the penalized likelihood estimation (PMLE) or the corresponding one-step sparse estimation (OSE) can be prohibitively high as the sample size becomes large, especially for GP models. To address both issues, this article proposes an efficient subsample aggregating (subagging) approach with an experimental design-based subsampling scheme. The proposed method is computationally cheaper, yet it can be shown that the resulting subagging estimators achieve the same efficiency as the original PMLE and OSE asymptotically. The finite-sample performance is examined through simulation studies. Application of the proposed methodology to a data center thermal study reveals some interesting information, including identifying an efficient cooling mechanism.

Key words and phrases: Bagging, computer experiment, experimental design, Gaussian process, Latin hypercube design, model selection.

1. Introduction

Gaussian process (GP) models, also known as kriging models, are widely used in many fields, including geostatistics (Cressie (1993), Stein (1999)), machine learning (Smola and Bartlett (2001), Snelson and Ghahramani (2006)), and computer experiment modeling (Santner, Williams and Notz (2003), Fang, Li and Sudjianto (2006)). In this article, we focus on two issues in GP modeling. One is the study of simultaneous variable selection and estimation of GP models for the mean function, in particular, and the other is how to alleviate the computational complexity in GP modeling.

Various examples of variable selection in GP models can be found in the literature, such as in geostatistics (Hoeting et al. (2006), Huang and Chen (2007)),

Chu, Zhu and Wang (2011)) and computer experiments (Welch et al. (1992), Linkletter et al. (2006), Joseph, Hung and Sudjianto (2008), Kaufman et al. (2011)). In this article, we mainly focus on identifying active effects through the mean function. Several empirical studies report that, by a proper selection of important variables in the mean function, the prediction accuracy of GP models can be significantly improved, especially when there are some strong trends (Joseph, Hung and Sudjianto (2008), Hung (2011), Kaufman et al. (2011)). Compared with nonlinear effects identified from the covariance function (Linkletter et al. (2006)), linear effects are relatively easy to interpret, and of scientific interest in many applications. Conventional approaches based on penalized likelihood functions, such as the penalized likelihood estimators (PMLEs) and the corresponding one-step sparse estimators (OSEs), are conceptually attractive, but computationally difficult in practice, especially with massive data observed on irregular grid. This is because estimation and variable selection heavily involve manipulations of an $n \times n$ correlation matrix that require $O(n^3)$ computations, where n is the sample size. The calculation is computationally intensive and often intractable for massive data.

The computational issue is well recognized in the literature and various methods are proposed, either changing the model to one that is computationally convenient or approximating the likelihood for the original data. Examples of the former includes Rue and Tjelmeland (2002), Rue and Held (2005), Cressie and Johannesson (2008), Banerjee et al. (2008), Gramacy and Lee (2008), and Wikle (2010); approximation approaches includes Nychka (2000), Smola and Bartlett (2001), Nychka, Wikle and Royle (2002), Stein, Chi and Welty (2004), Furrer, Genton and Nychka (2006), Snelson and Ghahramani (2006), Fuentes (2007), Kaufman, Schervish and Nychka (2008), and Gramacy and Apley (2015). However, these methods focus mainly on estimation and prediction, not variable selection, and most of them are developed for datasets collected from a regular grid under a low-dimensional setting. Recent studies address the issues by imposing a sparsity constraint on the correlation matrix, including covariance tapering and compactly supported correlation functions (Kaufman, Schervish and Nychka (2008); Kaufman et al. (2011), Chu, Zhu and Wang (2011), Nychka et al. (2015)). However, it has been shown that this does not work well for purposes of parameter estimation (Stein (2013), Liang et al. (2013)), which is crucial in selecting important variables. In addition, the connection between the degree of sparsity and computation time is nontrivial.

In this paper, we provide an alternative framework that alleviates the com-

putational difficulties in estimation and variable selection by utilizing the idea of subsample aggregating, also known as subagging (Büchlmann and Yu (2002)). This framework includes a subagging estimator and a new subsampling scheme based on a special class of experimental designs called Latin hypercube designs (LHDs), that have a one-dimensional projection property. By borrowing the inherited one-dimensional projection property of LHDs and a block structure, the new subsampling scheme not only provides an efficient data reduction but also takes into account the spatial dependency in GP models. The computational complexity of the proposed subagging estimation is dramatically reduced, yet the subagging estimators achieve the same efficiency as the original PMLE and OSE, asymptotically.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, the conventional penalized likelihood approach is discussed. The new variable selection framework, including the new subsampling scheme and the subagging estimators are introduced in Section 3. Theoretical properties are derived in Section 4. In Section 5, finite-sample performance of the proposed framework is investigated in simulation studies. A data center example is illustrated in Section 6. Discussions are given in Section 7.

2. Variable Selection in Gaussian Process Models

For a domain of interest Γ in R^d , we consider a Gaussian process $\{Y(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in R^d\}$ such that

$$Y(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + Z(\mathbf{x}), \quad (2.1)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ is a vector of unknown mean function coefficients and $Z(\mathbf{x})$ is a stationary Gaussian process with mean 0 and covariance function $\sigma^2 \psi$. The covariance function is $cov\{Y(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h}), Y(\mathbf{x})\} = \sigma^2 \psi(\mathbf{h}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$, where $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is a vector of correlation parameters for the correlation function $\psi(\mathbf{h}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$, and $\psi(\mathbf{h}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ is a positive semidefinite function with $\psi(\mathbf{0}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = 1$ and $\psi(\mathbf{h}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \psi(-\mathbf{h}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$.

Suppose n observations are collected, denoted by

$$\mathcal{D}_n = \{(\mathbf{x}_{t_1}, y(\mathbf{x}_{t_1})), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_{t_n}, y(\mathbf{x}_{t_n}))\} = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}.$$

Let $\mathbf{y}_n = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^T$, $\mathbf{X}_n = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)^T$, $\boldsymbol{\phi} = (\boldsymbol{\theta}^T, \boldsymbol{\beta}^T, \sigma^2)^T$ be the vector of all the parameters, and Θ be the parameter space. Based on (2.1), the likelihood function can be written as

$$f(\mathbf{y}_n, \mathbf{X}_n; \boldsymbol{\phi}) = \frac{|R_n(\boldsymbol{\theta})|^{-1/2}}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\mathbf{y}_n - \mathbf{X}_n \boldsymbol{\beta})^T R_n^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) (\mathbf{y}_n - \mathbf{X}_n \boldsymbol{\beta}) \right\},$$

where $R_n(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is an $n \times n$ correlation matrix with elements $\psi(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j; \boldsymbol{\theta})$. Thus the log-likelihood function, ignoring a constant, is

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\mathbf{y}_n, \mathbf{X}_n, \boldsymbol{\phi}) &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\mathbf{y}_n - \mathbf{X}_n\boldsymbol{\beta})^T R_n^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\theta})(\mathbf{y}_n - \mathbf{X}_n\boldsymbol{\beta}) \\ &\quad -\frac{1}{2}|R_n(\boldsymbol{\theta})| - \frac{n}{2}\log(\sigma^2), \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\beta}$, $\boldsymbol{\theta}$, and σ are the unknown parameters.

To achieve simultaneous variable selection and parameter estimation, we focus on penalized likelihood approaches, which are increasingly popular in recent years. A penalized log-likelihood function for GP models can be written as

$$\ell_p(\mathbf{y}_n, \mathbf{X}_n, \boldsymbol{\phi}) = \ell(\mathbf{y}_n, \mathbf{X}_n, \boldsymbol{\phi}) - n \sum_{j=1}^p p_\lambda(|\beta_j|), \quad (2.3)$$

where $p_\lambda(\cdot)$ is a pre-specified penalty function with a tuning parameter λ . There are various choices of penalty functions such as LASSO (Donoho and Johnstone (1994), Tibshirani (1996)), the adaptive LASSO (Zou (2006)), and the minimax concave penalty (Zhang (2010)). In this article, we focus on the smoothly clipped absolute deviation (SCAD) penalty (Fan and Li (2001)) defined by

$$p_\lambda(|\beta|) = \begin{cases} \lambda|\beta| & \text{if } |\beta| > \lambda, \\ \lambda^2 + (a-1)^{-1} \left(a\lambda|\beta| - \frac{\beta^2}{2} - a\lambda^2 + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \right) & \text{if } \lambda < |\beta| \leq a\lambda, \\ \frac{(a+1)\lambda^2}{2} & \text{if } |\beta| > a\lambda, \end{cases}$$

for some $a > 2$. By maximizing (2.3), the penalized maximum likelihood estimators (PLMEs) of $\boldsymbol{\phi}$ can be obtained as $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_n = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \ell_p(\mathbf{y}_n, \mathbf{X}_n, \boldsymbol{\phi})$.

To compute PMLEs under the SCAD penalty, Zou and Li (2008) develop a unified algorithm to improve computational efficiency by locally linear approximation (LLA) of the penalty function. They propose an one-step LLA estimation that approximates the solution after just one iteration in a Newton-Raphson-type algorithm starting at the maximum likelihood estimates (MLEs). Chu, Zhu and Wang (2011) extend the one-step LLA estimation to approximate the PMLEs for the spatial linear models and the resulting estimate is called the one-step sparse estimate (OSE).

Following the idea of Chu, Zhu and Wang (2011), the OSE of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ in GP models, denoted by $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{OSE}$, is obtained by maximizing

$$Q(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = -\frac{1}{2\hat{\sigma}^2(0)}(\mathbf{y}_n - \mathbf{X}_n\boldsymbol{\beta})^T R_n^{-1}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(0)})(\mathbf{y}_n - \mathbf{X}_n\boldsymbol{\beta}) - n \sum_{j=1}^p p'_\lambda(|\hat{\beta}_j^{(0)}|)|\beta_j|, \quad (2.4)$$

where $\hat{\beta}^{(0)}$, $\hat{\theta}^{(0)}$ and $\hat{\sigma}^{2(0)}$ are the MLEs obtained from (2.2). We also update θ and σ^2 by maximizing (2.4) evaluated at $\hat{\beta}_{OSE}$ with respect to θ and σ^2 . The resulting OSE of θ and σ^2 is denoted by $\hat{\theta}_{OSE}$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{OSE}^2$. We fix the tuning parameter $a = 3.7$ as recommended by Fan and Li (2001). To determine λ , a Bayesian information criterion (BIC) proposed by Chu, Zhu and Wang (2011) is incorporated.

The implementation of the penalized likelihood approach, including the calculation of PMLEs and OSEs is computationally demanding; it relies heavily on the calculation of $R_n^{-1}(\theta)$ and $|R_n(\theta)|$, computationally intensive and often intractable due to numerical issues. It is particularly difficult for massive data collected on irregular grids, because no Kronecker product techniques can be utilized for computational simplification (Rougier (2008)). A similar issue has also been recognized in calculating the MLEs in GP models.

3. Variable Selection for GP via Subagging

3.1. A new block bootstrap subsampling scheme

Subagging, modified based upon bagging (bootstrap aggregating), is one of the most effective and computationally efficient procedures to improve on unstable estimators (Efron and Tibshirani (1993), Breiman (1996), Büchmann and Yu (2002)). Although originally proposed to reduce variance in estimations and predictions, the idea of subsampling is attractive in many applications to achieve computational reduction. It is particularly appealing to GP modeling because of its high computational demand in estimating PMLEs and OSEs. However, direct application of subagging with random bootstrap subsamples is not efficient in estimation and variable selection of GP because the data are assumed to be dependent. This is not surprising because similar issues occur in the conventional bootstrap when the data are dependent, such as in time series and spatial data, and various block bootstrap techniques are introduced (Künsch (1989), Liu and Singh (1992), Lahiri (1995, 1999, 2003), Politis and Romano (1994)). Therefore, as an analogous result to the conventional block bootstrap, a new subsample scheme for dependent data based on blocks is called for.

We introduce a block bootstrap subsampling method based on Latin hypercube designs (LHDs). It is called LHD-based block bootstrap. LHD is a class of experimental designs such that the projection of an LHD onto any dimension has exactly one observation for each level and therefore the resulting design can spread out more uniformly over the space. An m -run LHD in a

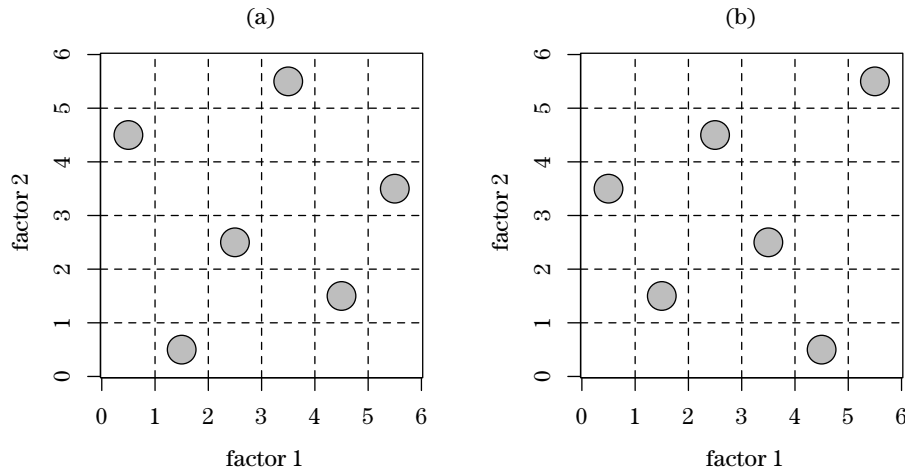


Figure 1. Two examples of LHDs.

d -dimensional space, denoted by $\text{LHD}(m, d)$ can be easily constructed by permuting $(0, 1, \dots, m - 1)$ for each dimension. Given the sample size, there are $(m!)^{d-1}$ LHDs. Two randomly generated $\text{LHD}(6, 2)$ are illustrated in Figure 1. It is clear that the projection onto either dimension has exactly one observation for each level. After decomposing the complete data into disjoint equally-spaced hypercubes/blocks, a LHD-based block bootstrap subsample can be obtained by collecting blocks according to the structure of a randomly generated LHD. One example of a LHD-based block bootstrap subsample using the LHD in Figure 1(a) is given in Figure 2, where the circles are the observations, gray areas are the LHD-based blocks, and the red dots are the resulting subsamples.

The LHD-based block bootstrap has distinct advantages. The block structure takes into account the spatial dependency and therefore improves the estimation accuracy for correlation parameters in GP models. Because of the one-dimensional balance properties inherited from LHDs, the block bootstrap subsamples can be spread out more uniformly over the complete data and the resulting subsamples can represent the complete data effectively. As well, the LHD can result in variance reduction in estimation compared with simple random samples (McKay, Beckman and Conover (1979), Stein (1987)). Therefore, the subgging estimates calculated by the proposed LHD-based subsamples are expected to outperform those calculated by the naive simple random subsamples in terms of estimation variance.

3.2. Variable selection using LHD-based block subagging

The procedure can be described in three steps:

Step 1: Divide each dimension of the interested region $\Gamma \in [0, l]^d$ into m equally spaced intervals so that Γ consists of m^d disjoint hypercubes/blocks. Define each block by mapping \mathbf{i} to a d -dimensional hypercube

$$\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i}) = \{\mathbf{x} \in R^d : bi_j \leq x_j \leq b(i_j + 1) \text{ and } j = 1, \dots, d\},$$

where $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_d)$, $i_j \in (0, \dots, m-1)$, represents the index of each block and $b = l/m$ is the edge length of the hypercube. Let $|\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i})|$ be the number of observations in the \mathbf{i} th hypercube/block. For simplicity, assume the data points are equally distributed over the blocks, $|\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i})| = n/m^d$.

Step 2: Select m blocks according to a randomly generated LHD(m, d). Each column of the LHD is a random permutation of $\{0, \dots, m-1\}$, denoted by $\boldsymbol{\pi}_i = (\pi_i(1), \dots, \pi_i(m))^T$ for $1 \leq i \leq d$. An m -run LHD is denoted by $\mathbf{i}_j^* = (\pi_1(j), \dots, \pi_d(j))$, $j = 1, \dots, m$, and the corresponding selected blocks are denoted by $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i}_1^*), \dots, \mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i}_m^*)$. The bootstrapped subsamples, denoted by $y_1^*(\mathbf{x}_1^*), \dots, y_N^*(\mathbf{x}_N^*)$, are the observations in the selected blocks, where $N = \sum_{i=1}^m |\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i}_i^*)|$. Based on the subsamples, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_N^*$ and its OSE $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{N, OSE}^*$ are obtained by maximizing (2.3) and (2.4) respectively.

Step 3: Repeat Step 2 K times to obtain PMLEs $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{N(j)}^*$ and the corresponding OSEs $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{N, OSE(j)}^*$, where $j = 1, \dots, K$. The subagging estimators are defined by $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_N = (1/K) \sum_{i=1}^K \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{N(i)}^*$ and $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{N, OSE} = (1/K) \sum_{i=1}^K \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}_{N, OSE(i)}^*$.

Figure 2 is an example with experimental region $\Gamma \in [0, 24]^2$, $d = 2$, $l = 24$. A common practice is that the data are collected by normalizing the experimental region to a unit cube. In such a case, we have $l = 1$. The circles represent the settings in which the experiments are performed and the total sample size is $n = 216$. The design, LHD(6, 2), implemented here is denoted by $\mathbf{i}_1^* = (0, 4)$, $\mathbf{i}_2^* = (1, 0)$, $\mathbf{i}_3^* = (2, 2)$, $\mathbf{i}_4^* = (3, 5)$, $\mathbf{i}_5^* = (4, 1)$, $\mathbf{i}_6^* = (5, 3)$ and $m = 6$. According to this design, the LHD-based blocks are presented by the gray areas with $b = 4$ and $|\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i})| = 6$. The red dots are the resulting LHD-based block subsamples with size $N = 36$.

Based on our procedure, the complexity is $O(n^3/m^{3(d-1)})$ for each subsample, which is computationally cheaper than $O(n^3)$ using the complete data, especially for large d . We assume data points are equally distributed over blocks in order to simplify the notation in the proof; the results still hold as long as the number

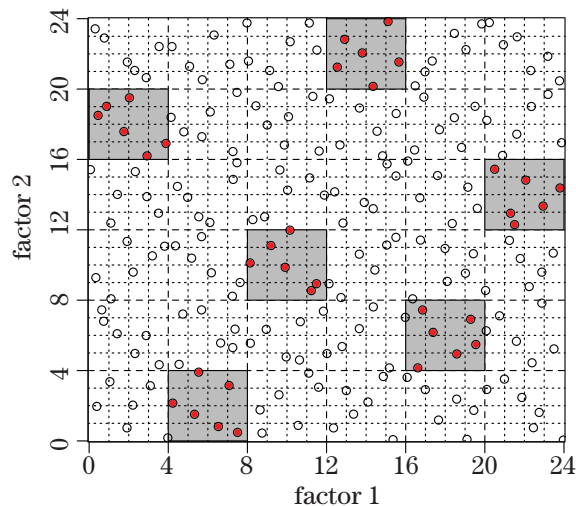


Figure 2. An example of LHD-based block bootstrap constructed from Figure 1(a).

of observations in each block is in the same order, $|\mathcal{B}_n(\mathbf{i}_i^*)| = O(n/m^d)$. For example, if the original data is collected by an orthogonal array-based Latin hypercube design (Tang (1993)), common in computer experiments, the proposed procedure can be successfully implemented. Based on our empirical experience, as long as each bootstrap subsample contains a small amount of empty blocks, we can still have an efficient representation of the original data. Empty blocks often occur when the original design has only few levels for some particular variables, such as qualitative variables. This issue can be addressed by modifying the LHDs by space-filling designs for quantitative and qualitative factors (Qian and Wu (2009); Deng, Hung and Lin (2015)) and as a result, empty blocks can be avoided. Given the total sample size n , we have $1 \leq m \leq n^{1/(d-1)}$, since each bootstrap subsample has size N in the order of $O(n/m^{d-1})$. If $N = n/m^{d-1}$, then we have $m \leq n^{1/(d-1)}$ to ensure $N \geq 1$. Clearly, $m = 1$ provides no computational reduction because the full data is utilized. As m increases, the subsample size N decreases and a larger K is affordable given the same computational constraints.

Instead of selecting subsamples based on all the variables, this procedure can be modified to be based on a subset of variables. To do this, we can first select a subset of variables with dimension \tilde{d} , where $\tilde{d} < d$. This subset can be chosen randomly or according to some prior knowledge. Then, replace $LHD(m, d)$ in Step 2 by $LHD(m, \tilde{d})$ and select the subsamples only according to the \tilde{d} variables. This is practically useful when d is large because the size of each subsample, n/m^{d-1} , can be relatively small increasing to $n/m^{\tilde{d}-1}$ by applying to subset variables.

While, the proposed framework is constructed based on rectangular or hypercubic regions, it can be extended to regions with irregular shape by replacing the LHD in Step 2 by other space-filling designs constructed for nonrectangular regions, e.g., Draguljić, Dean and Santner (2012) and Hung, Qian and Wu (2012).

4. Theoretical Properties

To understand the asymptotic properties of the subagging estimators, there are two distinct frameworks: increasing domain (Cressie (1993), Mardia and Marshall (1984)) asymptotics, where more and more data are collected in increasing domains while the sampling density stays constant, and fixed-domain asymptotics (Stein (1999), Liang et al. (2013)), where data are collected by sampling more and more densely in a fixed domain. The results in this research focus on increasing domain asymptotics. The results under fixed-domain asymptotics are more difficult to derive in general and rely on stronger assumptions, as discussed in the literature (Ying (1993), Zhang (2004)). It is shown by Zhang and Zimmerman (2005) that, given quite different behavior under the two frameworks in a general setting, their approximation quality performs about equally well for the exponential correlation function under certain assumptions. Results given here can then provide some insights about the subagging estimators in both frameworks. In ongoing work, we are exploring fixed domain asymptotics. More discussions are given in Section 7. Assumptions and the proofs are given in the Appendix and Supplemental Material.

We can show that the subagging estimator $\hat{\phi}_N$ converges to the original PMLE $\hat{\phi}_n$ in probability. Given the underlying probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) of a Gaussian process, a sample of size n with settings $\mathbf{x}_1(\omega), \dots, \mathbf{x}_n(\omega)$ and responses $y(\mathbf{x})$'s are observed from a given realization $\omega \in \Omega$. Let (Λ, \mathcal{G}) be a measurable space on the realization. For each $\omega \in \Omega$, let $P_{N,\omega}^*$ be the probability measure induced by the m -run LHD-based block bootstrap on (Λ, \mathcal{G}) . The proposed bootstrap is a method to generate a new dataset on $(\Lambda, \mathcal{G}, P_{N,\omega}^*)$ conditional on the n original observations. For any LHD-based block bootstrapped statistic \hat{T}_N^* , we write $\hat{T}_N^* \rightarrow 0$ if for any $\epsilon > 0$ and any $\delta > 0$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\{P_{N,\omega}^*(|\hat{T}_N^*| > \epsilon) > \delta\} = 0$.

Theorem 1. *Under the assumptions (A.1)-(A.6), if $m = o(n^{-1/d})$ and $m \rightarrow \infty$, then $\hat{\phi}_N - \hat{\phi}_n \rightarrow 0$.*

Next we study the distributional consistency of the subagging estimators.

Assume $\beta_0 = (\beta_{10}^T, \beta_{20}^T)^T$ to be the true regression coefficients, where, without loss of generality, β_{10} is an $s \times 1$ vector of nonzero regression coefficients and $\beta_{20} = 0$ is a $(p - s) \times 1$ zero vector. Let $\gamma_0 = (\theta_0, \sigma_0)$ denote the vector of true covariance parameters, $\hat{\phi}_N^* = (\hat{\beta}_{N,1}^*, \hat{\beta}_{N,2}^*, \hat{\gamma}_N^*)$, $\hat{\phi}_N = (\hat{\beta}_{N,1}, \hat{\beta}_{N,2}, \hat{\gamma}_N)$, and $\hat{\phi}_n = (\hat{\beta}_{n,1}, \hat{\beta}_{n,2}, \hat{\gamma}_n)$. When the OSE approach is applied, we take $\hat{\phi}_{N,OSE}^* = (\hat{\beta}_{N,1,OSE}^*, \hat{\beta}_{N,2,OSE}^*, \hat{\gamma}_{N,OSE}^*)$, $\hat{\phi}_N = (\hat{\beta}_{N,1,OSE}, \hat{\beta}_{N,2,OSE}, \hat{\gamma}_{N,OSE})$, and $\hat{\phi}_{n,OSE} = (\hat{\beta}_{n,1,OSE}, \hat{\beta}_{n,2,OSE}, \hat{\gamma}_{n,OSE})$. Let $a_n = \max_j \{p'_{\lambda_n}(|\beta_j|) : \beta_j \neq 0\}$ and $b_n = \max_j \{p''_{\lambda_n}(|\beta_j|) : \beta_j \neq 0\}$. Let $\mathbf{g}(\phi) = (p'_\lambda(\phi))$ and $\mathbf{G}(\phi) = \text{diag}(p''_\lambda(\phi))$. Particularly, $\mathbf{g}(\beta) = (p'_\lambda(|\beta_1| \text{sgn}(\beta_1)), \dots, p'_\lambda(|\beta_p| \text{sgn}(\beta_p)))$ and $\mathbf{g}(\gamma) = \mathbf{0}$; $\mathbf{G}(\beta) = \text{diag}(p''_\lambda(|\beta_1|), \dots, p''_\lambda(|\beta_p|))$ and $\mathbf{G}(\gamma) = \mathbf{0}$. The function J is the Hessian matrix and the detailed definition is given in the supplemental material.

Theorem 2. *Under assumptions (A.1)-(A.15), if $m = o(n^{-1/d})$ and $m \rightarrow \infty$, then*

- (i) *Sparsity: $\hat{\beta}_{N,2} = 0$ with probability tending to 1.*
- (ii) *Asymptotic normality: for the mean function coefficients,*

$$\sqrt{\frac{Kn}{m^{d-1}}} \{ \mathbf{J}(\beta_{10}) + \mathbf{G}(\beta_{10}) \} (\hat{\beta}_{N,1} - \hat{\beta}_{n,1}) \rightarrow N(0, \mathbf{J}(\beta_{10}));$$

for the correlation parameters,

$$\sqrt{\frac{Kn}{m^{d-1}}} (\hat{\gamma}_N - \hat{\gamma}_n) \rightarrow N(0, \mathbf{J}(\gamma_0)^{-1}).$$

In Theorem 3, it shows that when the OSE algorithm is applied, the resulting subagging estimators are asymptotically consist to the original OSEs using the complete data.

Theorem 3. *Under assumptions (A.1)-(A.15), if $m = o(n^{-1/d})$ and $m \rightarrow \infty$, then*

- (i) *Sparsity: $\hat{\beta}_{N,2,OSE} = 0$ with probability tending to 1.*
- (ii) *Asymptotic normality: for the mean function coefficients,*

$$\sqrt{\frac{Kn}{m^{d-1}}} (\hat{\beta}_{N,1,OSE} - \hat{\beta}_{n,1,OSE}) \rightarrow N(0, \mathbf{J}(\beta_{10})^{-1});$$

for the correlation parameters,

$$\sqrt{\frac{Kn}{m^{d-1}}} (\hat{\gamma}_{N,OSE} - \hat{\gamma}_{n,OSE}) \rightarrow N(0, \mathbf{J}(\gamma_0^{-1})).$$

5. Numerical Studies

In this section, we report on two sets of simulations conducted to study the finite-sample performance of the proposed method. One demonstrates the performance of the subagging approach compared with the original approach using all the data. The other illustrates the advantages of the proposed experimental design-based subsampling scheme by comparison with simple random sampling. The performance was evaluated in two aspects: the accuracy of variable selection and the parameter estimation, including the mean function coefficients and the correlation parameters using one-step sparse estimation as described in (2.4). The accuracy of variable selection was measured by two scores: the average number of the nonzero regression coefficients correctly identified in the repeated simulations, denoted by AC: the average number of the zero regression coefficients misspecified, denoted by AM. All the simulations were conducted by a 2.7GHz, 16G RAM workstation. Hereafter, we omit the subscript *OSE* for notational convenience.

5.1. Subagging vs. the estimation using all data

Three sample sizes, $n = 1,000$, $n = 2,000$ and $n = 3,000$, were considered and the data were generated from a regular grid in a four-dimensional space, $[0, 1]^4$. The proposed method is particularly useful for data collected from irregular grids. The reason to generate the simulations from a regular grid in this simulation was that the original PMLE calculation using full data can be further speeded up by Kronecker product techniques and some matrix singularity can be avoided (Rougier (2008)). These techniques are only applicable to data sets collected from a regular grid; a favorable comparison of the proposed method would make an even stronger case for the proposed procedure.

Simulations were generated from a Gaussian process with the mean function coefficients $\beta = (1, 0.5, 0, 0)$ and the correlation function

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^4 \theta_i |x_{1i} - x_{2i}|\right),$$

where $\theta_1 = \theta_2 = \theta_3 = \theta_4 = 1$ and $\sigma = 0.1$. For each choice of sample size, 50 data sets were simulated. For each simulated data set, 10 LHD-based block bootstrap samples were collected with $m = 4$. Due to the computation time needed for the complete data, the tuning parameter $\lambda = 0.1$ was fixed for all simulations.

In Table 1, the parameter estimation and the computing time are reported. Standard deviations are given in parenthesis. The rows *AC/2* and *AM/2* rep-

Table 1. Comparisons with all data.

	$n = 1,000$		$n = 2,000$		$n = 3,000$	
	<i>LHD</i>	<i>AllData</i>	<i>LHD</i>	<i>AllData</i>	<i>LHD</i>	<i>AllData</i>
θ_1	1.91(0.55)	1.14(0.05)	1.38(0.35)	1.02(0.02)	1.10(0.10)	0.97(0.02)
θ_2	1.94(1.20)	1.08(0.07)	1.16(0.14)	1.00(0.03)	1.17(0.08)	1.03(0.03)
θ_3	1.70(0.68)	1.03(0.04)	1.14(0.20)	0.92(0.03)	1.15(0.07)	1.06(0.02)
θ_4	1.77(0.83)	1.04(0.04)	1.37(0.45)	1.02(0.04)	1.10(0.03)	1.00(0.03)
β_1	1.00(3.2×10^{-3})	1.02(3.6×10^{-3})	0.99(4.2×10^{-3})	0.99(7.9×10^{-3})	1.01(3.4×10^{-3})	1.00(3.7×10^{-3})
β_2	0.46(1.7×10^{-2})	0.43(3.6×10^{-2})	0.51(3.3×10^{-3})	0.50(6.1×10^{-3})	0.49(5.5×10^{-3})	0.50(3.7×10^{-3})
<i>AC/2</i>	1	0.93	1	1	1	1
<i>AM/2</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>time</i>	243	464	990	2,402	2,524	8,623

resent the correct identification rate and the variable misspecification rate, respectively. The results in Table 1 suggest that the estimated parameters using LHD-based subagging are consistent with those obtained using complete data, as is the variable selection performance. In terms of computing time, the proposed subagging is much faster to compute compared with the conventional approach, especially when the sample size of the complete data is large.

5.2. LHD-based block subsampling vs. random subsampling

An important feature of the proposed subsampling scheme is that it borrows the idea of space-filling design to achieve an efficient data reduction. To demonstrate this, we compared its performance, denoted by LHD, with two alternatives: simple random sampling, denoted by SRS, and random blocks sampling, denoted by RBS, with the same sample size. We first compared the performance of LHD with SRS in two different settings of subsampling scheme: $m = 4$ and $m = 6$.

The data were generated from a six-dimensional space, $[0, 1]^6$ with sample size $n = 3,600$. We consider the same correlation function as before with the mean function coefficients $\beta = (1, 0.5, 0.3, 0, 0, 0)$, three non-zero coefficients with different signal strength and three zero coefficients. Results are summarized based on 100 simulations and 20 LHD-based block bootstrap samples collected for each simulation. To focus on the capability of selecting active factors, the proposed subsampling was performed on the first three variables and the resulting sample sizes for $m = 4$ and $m = 6$ were approximately 225 and 100, respectively.

In Table 2, the estimated parameters, the correct identification rates, and the variable misspecification rates are reported. In terms of parameter estimation, LHD performs similarly to SRS in estimating the mean function coefficients. For estimating the correlation parameters, LHD outperforms SRS with a much smaller estimation variance, especially when the subsample size is smaller

Table 2. Comparisons with simple random subsampling.

	$m = 4$		$m = 6$	
	<i>LHD</i>	<i>SRS</i>	<i>LHD</i>	<i>SRS</i>
θ_1	1.91(0.60)	1.89(4.11)	2.63(1.63)	2.61 (9.93)
θ_2	2.24(1.71)	1.90(3.73)	2.64(2.01)	2.95(10.56)
θ_3	1.96(0.79)	1.99(2.66)	2.49(1.14)	3.18(10.97)
θ_4	1.93(0.58)	1.92(4.11)	2.69(1.74)	2.90(12.78)
θ_5	1.78(0.35)	1.72(1.91)	2.58(0.84)	2.50(12.55)
θ_6	1.89(0.48)	1.94(3.84)	2.74(1.78)	1.80 (8.65)
β_1	1.01(1.5×10^{-3})	0.99(3.3×10^{-3})	1.03(1.6×10^{-3})	0.99 (1.5×10^{-3})
β_2	0.52(3.2×10^{-3})	0.52(2.9×10^{-3})	0.53(4.4×10^{-3})	0.55 (6.7×10^{-3})
β_3	0.14(1.2×10^{-2})	0.10(2.1×10^{-2})	0.15(1.1×10^{-2})	0.15 (2.5×10^{-2})
AC/3	0.98	0.81	1	0.87
AM/3	0	0	0	0
$Fre(\beta_1)$	1	1	1	1
$Fre(\beta_2)$	1	1	1	1
$Fre(\beta_3)$	0.93	0.40	1	0.60

($m = 6$). In general, it appears that the proposed subsampling based on LHDs provides an effective variance reduction in parameter estimation, which is consistent with the theoretical justifications in experimental design literature (McKay, Beckman and Conover (1979), Stein (1987)). In terms of variable selection, the correct identification rate for the LHD-based subsampling is 21% higher than SRS when $m = 4$ and 13% higher when $m = 6$. Both methods perform equally well with zero misspecification rate. To further assess the variable selection accuracy, the frequencies of individual variables identified from 100 simulations are reported in the last three rows of the table: $Fre(\beta_1)$, $Fre(\beta_2)$ and $Fre(\beta_3)$. The identification frequencies for β_3 decrease as expected due to its weak signal. But the proposed subsampling can still identify such a weak signal with at least 66% higher frequency compared with simple random subsamples.

In the next simulation, the proposed sampling scheme was compared with RBS in which blocks are selected randomly without the one-dimensional projection property. The data were generated from a 4-dimensional space with $n = 2,000$. We took the same correlation function as before with the mean function coefficients set to be $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (1, 0.5, 0.1, 0)$: three non-zero coefficients with different signal strength and one zero coefficient. Results are summarized in Table 3 based on 100 simulations and $K = 20$. The results of SRS with the same subsample size are also listed for comparison. In general, LHD outperforms the other two sampling and RBS performs slightly better than SRS. Compared with RBS, the

Table 3. Comparisons with simple random sampling of blocks.

$m=4$	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4	
LHD	1.21(0.26)	1.29(0.38)	1.27(0.32)	1.34(0.17)	
RBS	1.44(0.30)	1.50(0.34)	1.43(0.37)	1.50(0.33)	
SRS	1.77(0.88)	1.59(0.38)	1.55(0.72)	1.53(1.34)	
	β_1	β_2	β_3	$AC/3$	Freq($\beta_4 = 0$)
LHD	1.00(1.9×10^{-6})	0.50(2.3×10^{-6})	0.09(1.8×10^{-6})	1.0	0.95
RBS	1.00(7.5×10^{-6})	0.51(3.0×10^{-6})	0.08(3.1×10^{-6})	1.0	0.85
SRS	1.00(3.7×10^{-6})	0.51(1.1×10^{-6})	0.09(1.2×10^{-6})	1.0	0.63

Table 4. Analysis for the data center example.

	Variable	$\hat{\beta}$	$\hat{\theta}$
x_1	CRAC unit 1 flow rate	-7.5	5.3
x_2	CRAC unit 2 flow rate	-13.1	1.3
x_3	CRAC unit 3 flow rate	-2.7	0.3
x_4	CRAC unit 4 flow rate	-7.1	13.2
x_5	Room temperature setting	0	0.9
x_6	Tile open area percentage	0	0.6
x_7	Location in x -axis	-11.3	21.44
x_8	Location in y -axis	2.1	9.5
x_9	Height	17.8	0.8

proposed method has a higher frequency of identifying the nonactive variable: 0.95 vs. 0.85. Moreover, LHD has less bias and a smaller variance in parameter estimation, empirically demonstrating the advantage of the one-dimensional balance property of LHD.

6. Data Center Thermal Management

A data center is a computing infrastructure facility that houses large amounts of information technology equipment used to process, store, and transmit digital information. Data center facilities constantly generate large amounts of heat to the room, which must be maintained at an acceptable temperature for reliable operation of the equipment. A significant fraction of the total power consumption in a data center is for heat removal, and determining the most efficient cooling mechanism has become a major challenge. Since the thermal process in a data center is complex and depends on many factors, a crucial step is to model the thermal distribution at different experimental settings and identify important factors that have significant impacts on the thermal distribution (Hung, Qian and Wu (2012)).

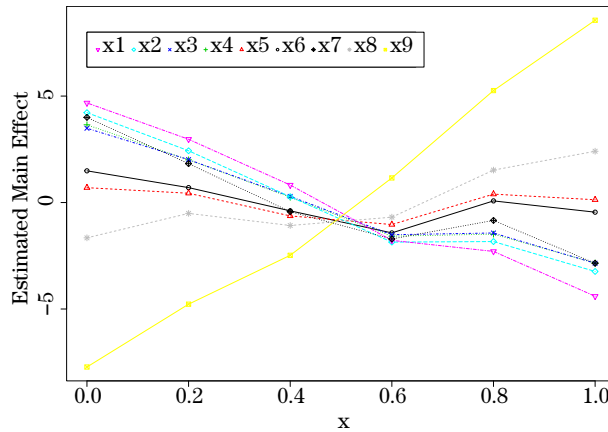


Figure 3. Main effect plot.

For a data center thermal study, physical experiments are not always feasible because some settings are highly dangerous and expensive to perform. Therefore, simulations based on computational fluid dynamics (CFD) are widely used. Such simulations using complex mathematical models are often called computer experiments (Santner, Williams and Notz (2003), Fang, Li and Sudjianto (2006)). In this example, CFD simulations were conducted at IBM T. J. Watson Research Center based on an actual data center layout. Detailed discussions about the CFD simulations can be found in (Lopez and Hamann (2011)). There were 27,000 temperature outputs generated from the CFD simulator based on an irregular grid over an 9-dimensional space. The nine variables are listed in Table 4, including four computer room air conditioning (CRAC) units with different flow rates (x_1, \dots, x_4), the overall room temperature setting (x_5), the perforated floor tiles with different percentage of open areas (x_6), and spatial location in the data center (x_7 to x_9).

Gaussian process models are widely used for the analysis of computer experiments because they provides a flexible interpolator for the deterministic simulation outputs (Santner, Williams and Notz (2003)). However, in this example, it is computationally prohibitive to build a GP model based on the complete CFD data. So we implemented the proposed LHD-based subagging approach with $m = 3$ for the first seven variables.

The fitted GP model is reported in the last two columns of Table 4, where $\hat{\beta}$ represents the estimated mean function coefficients and $\hat{\theta}$ represents the correlation parameters estimated using the exponential covariance function. From the fitted model, it appears that seven out of the nine variables have significant

effects on the mean function. The main effects plot based on the fitted GP model is given in Figure 3. It also appears that the two variables, x_5 and x_6 , which are identified as nonactive have relatively small impacts on cooling. This result provides important information regarding the efficiency of different cooling methods, because the variables are associated with two cooling mechanisms, a conventional cooling approach and a chilled water based cooling system. Among the active variables, the height (x_9) has a relatively large positive effect, which agrees with the general understanding of thermal dynamics that temperature increases significantly with height in a data center. The results also indicate that, among the four CRAC units in different locations of a data center, the first two CRAC units have significant effects on reducing the room temperature. This can help engineer locations of the CRAC units more effectively and improve the efficiency of the cooling mechanism.

7. Discussion

Future work will be explored in several directions. Extensions of the proposed procedure to optimal designs with better space-filling properties are appealing. For example, it is known that randomly generated LHDs can contain some structure. To further enhance desirable space-filling properties, various modifications are proposed. Numerical comparisons and theoretical developments of the generalization to different types of optimal space-filling designs will be studied. An interesting and important issue of the LHD-based block bootstrap is to determine the optimal block size. This topic has been discussed for conventional block bootstrap methods (Nordman, Lahiri and Fridley (2007)), but the solutions therein are not directly applicable to GP models. We plan to study the optimal block size for our procedure based on a new criterion defined for GP. Theoretical development under fixed-domain asymptotics will be explored by extending the results of Ying (1993) and Hung (2011), and subbagging predictors will also be developed. As pointed out by the referees, another interesting extension of the proposed work is to perform variable selection not only in the mean function but also in the correlation function. We are currently developing an extension to address this issue so that identification of linear effects in the mean function and nonlinear effects in the covariance function can be both achieved.

Supplementary Materials

The supplementary material consists of the proofs of Theorem 1 to Theo-

rem 3.

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Appendix: Assumptions

$$(A.1) \quad (n/m^d)\text{Cov}\{(\bar{y}_i - \mu)^2, (\bar{y}_j - \mu)^2\} = O(1), \mathbf{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_d) \neq \mathbf{j} = (j_1, \dots, j_d).$$

$$(A.2) \quad |\tau_n^2| = O(1).$$

$$(A.3) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \lambda_{\max}(E_n(\boldsymbol{\theta})) = 0 \text{ when the block space } b = l/m \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$(A.4) \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\phi}_1, \boldsymbol{\phi}_2 \in \Theta, |q_s(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}_1) - q_s(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}_2)| \leq L_s |\boldsymbol{\phi}_1 - \boldsymbol{\phi}_2| \text{ a.s. } P, \text{ where } L_s \text{ is Lipschitz constant and } \sup_n \{n^{-1} \sum_{s=1}^n EL_s\} = O(1).$$

$$(A.5) \quad \Theta \text{ is compact.}$$

$$(A.6) \quad \text{The functions } q_s(\omega, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \text{ and } r_n(\omega, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \text{ are such that } q_s(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \text{ and } r_n(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \text{ are measurable for all } \boldsymbol{\phi} \in \Theta, \text{ a compact subset of } R^p. \text{ In addition, } q_s(\omega, \cdot) : \Theta \rightarrow R \text{ and } r_n(\omega, \cdot) : \Theta \rightarrow R \text{ are continuous on } \Theta \text{ a.s.-} P, s = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$(A.7) \quad Q_n(\omega, \cdot) : \Theta \rightarrow R \text{ is continuously differentiable of order 2 on } \Theta \text{ a.s. } P.$$

$$(A.8) \quad \text{There exists a sequence } J_n(\boldsymbol{\phi}) : \Theta \rightarrow R^{p \times p} \text{ such that } \nabla^2 Q_n(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}) - J_n(\boldsymbol{\phi}) \xrightarrow{P} 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \text{ uniformly on } \Theta.$$

$$(A.9) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} J_n^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\phi}^0) = 0.$$

$$(A.10) \quad Q_N^*(\lambda, \omega, \cdot) : \Theta \rightarrow R \text{ are continuously differentiable of order 2 on } \Theta \text{ a.s. } P. \text{ The function } \nabla^2 Q_n(\omega, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \text{ is such that } \nabla^2 Q_n(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}) \text{ is measurable for all } \boldsymbol{\phi} \in \Theta \text{ and } \nabla^2 Q_n(\omega, \cdot) : \Theta \rightarrow R \text{ is continuous on } \Theta \text{ a.s.-} P.$$

$$(A.11) \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\phi}_1, \boldsymbol{\phi}_2 \in \Theta, |\nabla^2 Q_n(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}_1) - \nabla^2 Q_n(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\phi}_2)| \leq M_s |\boldsymbol{\phi}_1 - \boldsymbol{\phi}_2| \text{ a.s. } P, \text{ where } M_s \text{ is Lipschitz constant and } \sup_n \{n^{-1} \sum_{s=1}^n EM_s\} = O(1).$$

$$(A.12) \quad a_n = O(n^{-1/2}) \text{ and } b_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$(A.13) \quad \text{There exist positive constants } c_1 \text{ and } c_2 \text{ such that when } \beta_1, \beta_2 > c_1 \lambda_n, |p''_{\lambda_n}(\beta_1) - p''_{\lambda_n}(\beta_2)| \leq c_2 |\beta_1 - \beta_2|.$$

$$(A.14) \quad \lambda_n \rightarrow 0, \quad n^{1/2}\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$(A.15) \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \liminf_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} \lambda_n^{-1} p'_{\lambda_n}(\beta) > 0.$$

Assumption (A.3) controls the correlation between bootstrapped blocks. (A.4) and (A.5) are required in order to achieve uniform convergence of the bootstrapped likelihood function. (A.6) ensures the existence of the estimators. (A.7)-(A.9) are regularity conditions for standard MLE consistency in GP models, analogous to the conditions in Mardia and Marshall (1984). (A.10) ensures the existence of the covariance matrix. (A.11) is the global Lipschitz condition for $\nabla^2 Q_n(\omega, \cdot)$ which guarantees the convergence of the covariance matrix calculated based on the LHD-based block bootstrap. (A.12)-(A.15) are mild regularity conditions regarding the penalty function.

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